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March 6, 2018

The Honorable James M. Inhofe
United States Senate
205 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran
United States Senate
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
521 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Inhofe, Blumenthal, Moran and Cantwell:

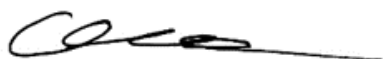
On behalf of the 19,000 cities, villages and towns represented by the National League of Cities (NLC), we thank you for your leadership through the introduction of legislation to establish an aviation maintenance workforce development pilot program. We are pleased to support this legislation that would invest in strategies to address the workforce needs in a critical sector to cities across the country.

As city leaders work to address the aging physical infrastructure needs in communities across America, we must simultaneously invest in the human capital infrastructure that make these projects possible. Federal leadership and investment in programs that support the workforce development pipeline is essential to ensure a diverse and skilled workforce.

With an increasing number of workers in the aviation maintenance sector slated for retirement over the next decade, widening the gap between supply and demand, it's critical to invest in connections to education and training that will support the skills and labor gap in this important industry. For cities across the nation, airports are an important economic engine, providing jobs and critical infrastructure connections.

As Congress begins to consider infrastructure investments across America, we look forward to partnering with you in support of passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Clarence E. Anthony
CEO and Executive Director